



## *Frequently asked questions*

- 1. What kind of physician volunteers are required for the mission on the ground?**  
We need physicians of all specialties, especially Emergency physicians, family doctors, psychiatrists, Obstetricians & Gynecologists, radiologists, endocrinologists, internists, and dermatologists.
- 2. What other specialty is required?**  
We also need nurses, physiotherapists, mid wives, psychologists, and respiratory therapists.
- 3. What are the minimum and maximum number of weeks that I can volunteer?**  
There is no maximum number of weeks that one can volunteer as the needs of the Rohingya people are ongoing but 2 weeks is the minimum.
- 4. Is it safe at the camps?**  
Yes, thus far the NGO volunteers have not had any concerns regarding safety, however, we can not guarantee one's safety as the clinics are located near the refugee camps where the situation can get volatile. Our physician local coordinator and our expert local driver will be with the volunteers at all times and will always guide them during the mission to ensure utmost safety. It is mandatory for the volunteers to wear the Humanity Auxilium vest and badge at all times when out serving the refugees.
- 5. Where are camp clinics located?**  
The camp clinics are in Hakimpara, Jamtoli, Moynarghona – all located near the border of Myanmar and Bangladesh.
- 6. Will I get an opportunity to visit the camps?**  
Yes, our coordinator will take you into the camps to get an idea of how life is in the camps for these individuals on a day to day basis.
- 7. May I interview the patients and take pictures with them?**  
Yes, but with permission from the patients. We want you to understand the depth of the crisis in order to serve this population better and advocate on their behalf, hence, it will be ideal if they told you their own story in their own words.



#### 8. How will my day look like in Cox's Bazar?

- The driver will be ready to pick you and the other volunteers from the hotel at 8am sharp. Volunteers are urged to have a hearty breakfast beforehand. The van ride is about 1.5 – 2 hrs depending on the traffic.
- Patients as well as the translators will be waiting at the clinics, the triage nurse will try to triage patients according to your specialty but it might not always be possible.
- The patients are seen continuously till 4pm.
- You can take breaks as needed during the clinic day to consume water and snacks or even to contain yourself as the patients' stories of abuse can be quite challenging at times.
- The NGO vans will take you back to the hotel at 4pm.
- The volunteers then usually go out for dinner together at the local restaurants or go for sightseeing or just rest up at the hotel.

#### 9. Do I need to book my own hotel and transportation? What is the cost?

We will book your hotel and transportation as we get a discounted rate.. It will cost \$60-\$100 CAN per day including hotel, food, and transportation (subject to change). The volunteers are responsible for the cost of their own hotel fare, food, and transportation.

#### 10. What if I get sick?

Volunteers might experience travellers' diarrhea and if they do then will require rest and hydration in their respective hotel rooms. Depending on the severity and the illness, if needed, we will fly our volunteers out to the Chittagong hospital which is the biggest hospital nearby.

#### 11. Do I need any vaccines before I go on the mission?

Yes, measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine, diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis vaccine, varicella (chickenpox) vaccine, polio vaccine, and your yearly flu shot. Cholera, Hepatitis A and B, typhoid, rabies, and malaria. Please take a look at the CDC website for more details.

<https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/bangladesh>

#### 12. Do I need a visa to travel to Bangladesh?

Yes, you may apply for a tourist visa on arrival; however, to avoid any hassle at the airport, you may apply for a tourist visa beforehand. Please visit the website for the High Commission of Bangladesh of Canada website for online application.

<https://www.visa.gov.bd/>

<https://www.bdhcottawa.ca/visa-and-no-visa-mrv-mrny>



**13. How do I get to Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh?**

You will need to fly to Shah Jalal International Airport in Dhaka, Bangladesh then take a flight to Cox's bazar.

<https://shahjalalairport.com/>

The local airlines are Novoair and Regent airways.

<https://www.flynovoair.com/>

**14. Can I use my mobile phone in Bangladesh?**

Yes, you can buy a SIM card at the ShahJalal International Airport, Dhaka and use it during your stay.

**15. Should I bring any equipment or medicine?**

It would be best to donate that money upon arrival so that the medications can be purchased locally as Bangladeshi medications are effective and cheap.

**16. Should I bring any medication for my personal use?**

Yes, please bring ample supply of your own prescribed medication. It is ideal to carry the following during travel but not mandatory.

Gravol, pepto bismol, tums, imodium, restoralax, polysporin cream and eye drops, bandaids, probiotics, Tylenol, advil, and 3 day supply of ciprofloxacin. DEET insect repellent, sunscreen, and After Bite cream.

**17. What type of clothes should I bring?**

Bangladesh's weather is very pleasant from October to April with temperatures ranging from 15 – 28C. Evenings are cooler, hence, a wind breaker is required. Rain jacket and rain boots are required if you are going during the rainy season.

<https://www.accuweather.com/en/bd/dhaka/28143/december-weather/28143>

Bangladesh is a primarily Muslim country. Volunteers are encouraged to be sensitive to the cultural norms and avoid short skirts and tank tops. Closed shoes are required to work at the camps.